

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION III

841 Chestnut Building  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107

**SUBJECT:** Trip Report-Shaffer Equipment Site,  
Minden, West Virginia

**FROM:** Theresa E. Bickel **TJB**  
Office of Public Affairs (3PA00)

**TO:** E. Ann Cardinal, Supervisor  
Office of Public Affairs (3PA00)

**RECEIVED**  
JUN 19 1989

**DATE:** MAY 12 1989

**ATSDR**  
REGION III

Purpose

On May 9 and 10 I visited the Shaffer Equipment Site in Minden, West Virginia for the purpose of meeting with community members to discuss ongoing and future site activities. I met with representatives of Concerned Citizens to Save Fayette County (CCSFC) on Tuesday evening and again on Wednesday. I also toured the site and talked with residents that did not attend the meetings set up by CCSFC.

Issues and Action Items

The community is very concerned about the health effects of PCBs. Many of the citizens I talked to believe that they have, or will be affected by the PCB contamination left onsite. This belief is due primarily to misinformation and rumors generated by a few community members and outsiders, such as Lois Gibbs and Paul McGhee, an optometrist from a nearby town who serves as the technical advisor for CCSFC. Larry Rose, CCSFC leader, was not able to attend the meetings.

1. Health Assessment of Residents

The residents are aware that a health assessment will not begin until the LSI and Vanderbilt University health survey are complete. However, the residents are concerned that WVA Health Department will not request the Health Assessment from ATSDR in a timely manner.

The community also made it clear that it will not accept any health assessment coordinated by Lorretta Haddy, WVA Department of Health epidemiologist. Minden residents believe that Ms. Haddy does not take their health concerns seriously and has already concluded that there is no relationship between the PCB contamination at the Shaffer site and their health problems. This issue needs to be resolved before the Health Assessment begins.

Action: EPA should ensure that the state requests the Health Assessment by the Fall, 1989.

Action: EPA, ATSDR, WVA Dept. of Health officials, and CCSFC should meet to discuss who will coordinate the Health Assessment in WVA.

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## 2. Listing Site Inspection

In addition to items agreed to be performed by EPA and ATSDR at the meeting with Senator Rockefeller and CCSFC, the residents would like other hot spots examined in the scope of the LSI, including:

- resampling 6 (six) transformers found on the "Mountain Laurel" property.
- sampling road material near Sam's Body Shop in Rocklick. Citizens suspect PCB-contaminated material was used as road material.
- include East Oak Hill in LSI.
- sample slate pile on Minden Ave.

Action: Bob Panabianco should include these additional hot spots in LSI workplan with WVA.

## 3. Drum Removal and Site Stabilization

Residents were informed of onsite activities. CCSFC requested sampling results when available.

Action: Phil Younis should send sampling results to Public Affairs as soon as results are available. I will send sampling results to CCSFC and information repository.

## 4. Information Repository

No information repository has been developed for the site.

Action: Phil Younis should provide Public Affairs copies of sampling results from the 1984-87 Removal and any other information pertinent to the Shaffer Equipment site. This should be done by May 30th. I will then develop an information repository at the local library and send these materials to the library.

cc: Phil Younis (3HW22)

Charlie Kleeman (3HW26)

Tom Voltaggio (3HW29)

Lynn Wilder (3HW22)

Rich Kampf (3CI00)

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